

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A machine having a type plate affixed thereto, the type plate forms a carrier for at least one of written and graphical information, the type plate bearing an electronic storage device, wherein the storage device has a separate input for receiving data transmission signals that are generated in the machine and that are representative of operational data of the machine, and wherein the storage device has a second input and an output which provide wire-free transmission of data to a device provided separately from the type plate.
2. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the storage device lacks its own power supply.
3. (Currently Amended) The machine as claimed in claim 2, wherein the storage device is suitable for receiving operating power required to read data into and out of the memory, as well as the wire-free transmission of electrical power to the second input of the storage device from a device provided separately from the type plate.
4. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 3, wherein the storage device receives operating power, without a mechanical coupling, in a non-contact or wire-free manner.
5. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 3, wherein the storage device receives operating power from at least one of the second inputs, the operating power being provided separately from the reading of data into and/or out of the storage device.

6. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a connection between the separate input and a transmitter/receiver of the output and between the separate input and the second input.
7. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 2, wherein the machine includes a second transmitter, and the type plate is physically positioned within the machine, thereby permitting the transmission of data and operating power from the second transmitter to the storage device.
8. Canceled.
9. (Currently Amended) The combination apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the first input is linked to a wireless receiver, and the first signal provides electrical power to the electronic storage device.
10. Canceled.
11. (Previously Presented) The machine as claimed in claim 1, wherein the data signals generated in the machine includes information indicative of at least one of an operating time of the machine, a loading of the machine, and a rotational speed of the machine.

12. (Previously Presented) In combination:

a machine having an output; and

an apparatus configured to monitor operation of the machine, the apparatus including

a wireless transmitter disposed on the machine, the wireless transmitter configured to transmit a first signal representative of operating data of the machine;

a type plate affixed to the machine, the type plate lacking its own power supply and having

a first input configured to receive the first signal from the wireless transmitter of the machine,

a second input configured to receive a second signal from a device that is separate from the type plate,

an electronic storage device configured to store the operating data represented by the first signal, and

an output configured to provide wire-free transmission of the operating data to the device that is separate from the type plate.

13. (Previously Presented) The combination as claimed in claim 12, wherein the type plate further includes a wireless receiver connected to the second input, and wherein the second input signal serves to provide operational power to the electronic storage device during the transmission of the first signal from the wireless transmitter of the machine to the first input.

14. (Currently Amended) The combination as claimed in claim 13, wherein the type plate is configured such that transmission of the operating data from the wireless transmitter to the first input is possible only as a result of an input of a security code.

15. (Currently Amended) The combination~~machine~~ as claimed in claim 12, wherein the operating data is indicative of at least one of an operating speed and an operating time period of the machine.

16. (Previously Presented) A method of monitoring operation of a machine, the method comprising the steps of:

affixing a type plate to the machine, the type plate having an electronic storage device having a first input, a second input, an output, and a wireless receiver connected to the second input;

acquiring operating data concerning the machine, the operating data including data indicative of at least one of an operating time of the machine and an operating speed of an output of the machine;

transmitting a first signal representing the operating data from a transmitter of the machine to the first input of the storage device;

transmitting a second signal from a device that is separate from the type plate to the wireless receiver on the type plate; and

storing the operating data in the electronic storage device of the type plate.

17. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 16, further comprising using electrical power from the second signal to provide operational power to the electronic storage device.

18. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 16, wherein the step of storing the operating data is performed only in response to the inputting of a security code.